THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, September 30, 1805.

On FEEDING CATTLE *with* GREEN FOOD.

By Mr. Edward Powys.

I Conceive the principal object respecting agriculture, in the present state of this country, is to procure the greatest possible supply of the necessaries of life within the kingdom itself, and one principal means of doing this is, to raise the greatest produce from a given quantity of land.

To effect this, every encouragement should be given by landowners to the cultivation of grain and turnips; because I look upon the produce of an acre of grain to be, to the produce of an acre of grass, in the proportion of at least fifteen to two, in furnishing the necessaries of life. I suppose the grain made into bread, and the grass digested by a feeding beast, and changed into an increase of weight.

One great means of increasing the growth of grain and turnips, I think, would be to encourage the farmer to make as much manure as possible. This would be effected by allowing him to sell all his wheat and rye straw, with the restriction of laying out the whole price in manure; and by gentlemen, who have land in their hands trying the experiment of keeping their cattle and horses in the house upon green food great part of the summer.

For these last six years I have sold all the wheat straw I did not want for thatching and the beds of certain kinds of horses, and can assure you that the same farm has produced for some years back one-third more grain, and keeps double the live stock it did six years ago.

As a proof that what I say of keeping cattle in the house in summer upon green food is not matter of theory only, but of practice, I shall mention my own experience.

For these last five years I have kept eight or ten waggon horses in the stable upon clover, cut and carried for them once a day; the small waste that they made was thrown into a low cratch (or receptacle, with staves on each side) for my pigs, which have generally been from 25 to 40. My horses and pigs, thus fed, have eaten, between the beginning of May and corn harvest, from two and a half to three and a half acres, according to the goodness of the clover. My horses have been, by this means, in much better condition than if turned into a field; there has been a saving of at least eight or ten acres of clover for other stock; a great deal of the richest manure has been made (much more, and richer, than in the same time in winter,) and the additional daily expence has been, one man less than half his time, in cutting, raking, and carrying, with a horse and cart, one load each day.

EXPERIMENT.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
One man half a day for 13 weeks, at 4s. per week	2	12	0
One horse 13 weeks, at 6s.	3	18	0
	6	10	0
Profit	24	0	0
	30	10	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
Eight acres of clover saved by this experiment, at 50s. per acre	20	0	0
Manure, at least, ...	10	10	0
	30	10	0

The first year I tried the experiment the manure made was estimated by a good farmer at 20l. but I wish to make allowance for the value of the straw, and the manure that would have been made by the horses standing in the stable the usual hours in summer.

I must endeavour to remove an objection that may perhaps be made to this experiment, by observing, that I cannot think land injured any more by the green food being cut by the scythe, than by cattle or horses; and as to the dung that is dropped in summer, it breeds flies, and does more harm than good.

I have ever thought land exhausted infinitely more by its produce being suffered to ripen and seed, than by its being cut in a green state. The advantage I had derived from this experiment, induced me last summer to try whether cattle might not be treated in the same way.

I began with putting into stalls 19; I afterwards increased my stock fed in this manner to 50, consisting of horses, feeding cattle, milking cows and colts, besides a large quantity of pigs.

The horses, as usual, answered well.

The feeding cattle came on much faster than I ever saw them in summer.

The milking cows fed very much, and milked very well.

The colts did well, and lived chiefly upon the refuse of the cattle.

The pigs, as usual, ate the refuse of the horses.

The quantity of land run over with the scythe for this purpose was:—

Fourteen acres of trefoil, very moderate, on account of the clover root having died in winter.

Two acres of vetches, very moderate, on account of the severe winter.

Five acres of very good grass.

The cattle were turned out late at night for about six or seven hours.

The trefoil caused some trouble, on account of the cattle sometimes swelling, but brought them on very well, though they throve best upon the winter vetch or tares, and upon the grass.

The daily expence was one old man of more than 70, to feed and clean them, a young man, to cut, rake, and carry the food, with a single horse cart.

If this stock had been turned out I should suppose they would have run over at least 60 acres, if the crop had been good, and much more, if the indifferent trefoil is considered.

EXPERIMENT.

Dr.	£.	s.	d.
Two men 13 weeks, at 14s.	9	2	0
One horse ditto, 7s.	4	11	0
	13	13	0
Profit	83	17	0
	97	10	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
Twenty-nine acres saved, at 50s.	72	10	0

Any person that intends to practise this method should begin to cut his green food so early in spring, that he may be able again to mow the same ground from hay to corn harvest.

I have before observed, that I never saw cattle in summer come on so fast. I speak this, not only from my own observation,

tion, but from that also of several farmers and butchers, who came through curiosity or business frequently to visit them. The most feeding green food is winter vetches; and the most advantageous mode of cultivating them, I think, is to plough up a clean stubble, (that is intended for turnips), manure it, and sow it with vetches soon after corn harvest. When the vetches are all cut in May and June, or rather in the latter month, the field may be ploughed and sown with turnips for a winter crop.

From corn harvest 'till September 22, my cattle were all out in the fields at grass. I then took up 30 into stalls, and fed them with turnips which had been sown early in May, and which had arrived at a very good size. My first field of turnips has been carried off, ploughed and sown with wheat, which has been above the ground some time, and looks very promising.

I have practised this scheme of sowing turnips in May, carrying them off before the beginning or end of the following November, and then sowing the piece with wheat, for these last three years. And I have found this wheat much more productive than any sown after any other crop or fallow. I am speaking of dry sown land.

One year I got up all the turnips of a field, topped and butted them (throwing the tops and butts in heaps by themselves), carried the tops immediately as they were cut to a bare stubble for my cattle and sheep, and laid the butts up in large heaps, either under cover or in my stack-yard, with straw over them. Where there was no straw in layers between them, they kept for two or three months; some that had layers of straw every foot or half yard perpendicular, soon began to decay near the straw, which was made to heat by the moisture from the turnips.

From these experiments upon turnips, and from observing that dry land of my own, though it produced crops of grain or turnips for many years together, with the change of clover (mown twice in the same year) only once in five years, did not lose any of its power, I have conceived that much more grain might be produced upon well cultivated farms. Wet land that is well cultivated might bear, in regular succession, crops of turnips, wheat, and barley, or oats. Dry sound land may also bear the same succession when an early crop of turnips is wanted; and when turnips are wanted to stand the winter, a succession of turnips, barley, and wheat.

I think it is much more advantageous to carry all the turnips to cattle in stalls (except a very few left for sheep) than to eat them on the land, because they furnish much more food and manure. I am aware that many gentlemen of landed property will object to this constant tillage: in answer to which I shall only observe, that it has been my opinion and practice never to have any

grass

grass land that is not worth 40s. an acre; never to plough my grass land, but to till the rest constantly, with the intermission now and then of turnips and clover, the latter only for one year.

The farm I have above alluded to is about 240 acres, of which I have in grass land about 90 acres; in tillage for grain and turnips about 120 acres. The rest is generally clover, unless I have a single fallow of wheat upon a field of wet land.

I repeat it once more, that the interests of the public, of the landlord, and tenant, (for I know of no distinction when many years are taken into consideration) are united in the greatest produce of the necessaries of life; and that if arable land is kept clean and full of manure, it receives no injury from producing the greatest quantity of grain. The increased produce of land benefits the public in too obvious a manner to enlarge upon. It benefits the landlord, by his being able, at the expiration of certain fair intervals, to raise the rent of his farm; and the tenant or occupier, by getting more profit from a given quantity of land, and with nearly a given capital.

I have recommended turnips once in three years, because I think land requires cleaning once in that time, and because it is thus effected without losing the benefit of a crop in any year.

Much has been lately said about the superior advantage of cattle over horses in farmer's teams. I think some horses must be kept for the farmer to take his grain to market, and to carry his coal and lime. If he is so near a large town that he can draw at least two load of dung in a day, he will also want them for that purpose. Other team work may very well be done by cattle. But I think cows are much more useful and beneficial than oxen, and that it would be an advantage to the kingdom if few or no oxen were reared. The uses of cattle are to work, milk, and feed. I have seen barren cows work as well as oxen; they require less keep and walk faster. Oxen are of no use to the dairy, and they will not feed so fast as cows.

When first I commenced farmer I followed the example of my predecessor, in feeding chiefly oxen; but I soon found that cows fed much faster and on less meat, and for some years past have carefully avoided having any oxen in my stalls.

Meadows.—It should be considered as a great object of every landlord, or his steward, to procure watered or flooded meadows.

The best means of doing this is, to place the farm-yard on such an eminence of the farm that a stream can be procured to run through it, and afterwards over the greatest quantity of meadow land.

Common meadows ought to be well manured once in three years, and will then produce one ton and half of hay, per acre, and a pasture from the middle of September to Christmas,

Good

Good watered meadows will bear to be grazed from the beginning or middle of August 'till May following, and will, between that time and hay harvest, produce one fourth of hay more than the other.

The difference of the profit of watered meadows over common, I think, is annually as underneath:

	£.	s.	d.
One third of 5l. (the expence of manuring an acre of land)	1	13	4
One half ton of hay additional	1	5	0
Difference of the value of grazing	0	11	8
£.	3	10	0

But besides the produce and profit, there are two other very great advantages in watered meadows. The one, saving manure for arable land, the other keeping the pastures free from stock the beginning of spring.

I have hitherto only mentioned a stream that runs through a farm yard, but I have frequently observed very great advantages derived from nothing but clear spring water being turned over grass land.

If a farmer has a greater command of water than he wants for his meadows and pasture land, he may occasionally till some of them for two or three years, and they will produce great crops without manure. I saw this practised with great success, this last summer, by the late Mr. Bakewell, of Dishley, Leicestershire.

Account of the Travels between the Tropics, of Messrs. Humboldt and Bonpland, in 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, *and* 1804.

(Concluded from Page 744.)

M. HUMBOLDT flattered himself with the hope of being in England in the months of August or September, 1803; but the attraction of a country so beautiful and so variegated as the kingdom of New Spain, the great hospitality of its inhabitants, and the dread of the yellow-fever at Vera Cruz, which cuts off almost all those who, between the months of June and October come down from the mountains, induced him to defer his departure 'till the middle of winter. After having occupied his attention with plants, the state of the air, the hourly variations of the barometer, the phenomena of the magnet, and, in particular, the longitude of Acapulco, a port in which two able astronomers, Messrs. Espinsa and Galeano, had before made observations, our travellers set out for Mexico.—They ascended gradually from the scorching vallies of Mescala

and Papagayo, where the thermometer in the shade stood at 32 degrees of Reaumur, and where they passed the river on the fruit of the *crescentia pinnata*, bound together by ropes of agave, to the high table lands of Chilpantzingo, Tehuilotepec, and Tasco.

At these heights of six or seven hundred toises above the level of the sea, in consequence of the mildness and coolness of the climate, the oak, cypress, fir, and fern, begin to be seen, together with the kinds of grain cultivated in Europe.

Having spent some time in the mine of Tasco, the oldest, and formerly the richest in the kingdom, and having studied the nature of those silvery veins, which pass from the hard calcerous rock to the micaceous schist, and inclose foliaceous gypsum, they ascended by Cuernaraca and the cold regions of Guchilaqua, to the capital of Mexico. This city has 150,000 inhabitants, and stands on the scite of the old Tenochtitlan, between the lakes of Teztuco and Xochimilo, which have decreased in size since the Spaniards, to lessen the danger of inundations, have opened the mountains of Sincoe, is intersected by broad straight streets. It stands in sight of two snowy mountains, one of which is named Popocatepec; and of a volcano still burning; and, at the height of 1160 toises, enjoys a temperate and agreeable climate; it is surrounded by canals, walks bordered with trees, a multitude of Indian hamlets, and, without doubt, may be compared to the finest cities of Europe. It is distinguished also by its large scientific establishments, which may vie with several of the old continent, and to which there are none similar in the new.

The botanical garden, directed by that excellent botanist, M. Cervantes; the expedition of M. Sesse, who is accompanied by able draftsmen, and whose object is to acquire a knowledge of the plants of Mexico; the School of Mines, established by the liberality of the corps of miners, and by the creative genius of M. d'Elhuyar; and the Academy of Painting, Engraving, and Sculpture; all tend to diffuse taste and knowledge in a country, the riches of which seem to oppose intellectual culture.

With instruments taken from the excellent collection of the School of Mines, M. Humboldt determined the longitude of Mexico, in which there was an error of nearly two degrees, as has been confirmed by corresponding observations of the satellites, made at the Havannah.

After a stay of some months in that capital, our travellers visited the celebrated mines of Moran and Real-del-Monte, where the vein of La Biscayna has given millions of piastres to the counts de Regla; they examined the obsidian stones of Oyamel, which form strata in the pearl-stone and porphyry, and served as knives to the ancient Mexicans. The whole of this country, filled with basaltes, amygdaloids, and calcareous and

sedarcony

secondary formations, from the large cavern of Danto, traversed by a river, to the porphyritic rocks of Actopan, presents phenomena interesting to the geologist, which have been already examined by M. del Rio, the pupil of Werner, and one of the most learned mineralogists of the present day.

On their return from their excursion to Moran in July, 1803, they undertook another to the northern part of the kingdom. At first they directed their researches to Huehuetoca, where, at the expence of six millions of piastres, an aperture has been formed in the mountain of Sincoc, to drain off the water from the valley of Mexico to the river Montezuma. They then passed Queretaro, by Salamanca and the fertile plains of Yrapuato, to Guanaxuato, a town which contains 50,000 inhabitants; it is situated in a narrow defile, and celebrated by its mines, which are of far greater consequence than those of Potosi.

The mine of Count de Valencia, which has given birth to a considerable town on a hill, which, thirty years ago, scarcely afforded pasture to goats, is already 1840 feet in perpendicular depth. It is the deepest and richest in the world; the annual profit of the proprietors having never been less than three millions of livres, and it sometimes amounts to five or six.

After two months employed in measurements and geological researches, and after having examined the thermal waters of Comagillas, the temperature of which is 11 degrees of Reaumur higher than those of the Philippine Islands, which Sonnerat considers as the hottest in the world, our travellers proceeded through the valley of St. Jago, where they thought they saw in several lakes, at the summit of the basaltic mountains, so many craters of burnt-out volcanoes, to Valladolid, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Michoacan.

They thence descended, notwithstanding the continual autumnal rains, by Patzquaro, situated on the margin of a very extensive lake, towards the coast of the Pacific Ocean, to the plains of Jorullo, where, in the course of one night, in 1759, during one of the greatest convulsions which the globe ever experienced, there issued from the earth a volcano, 1494 feet in height, surrounded by more than 2000 mouths, still emitting smoke. They descended into the burning crater of the great volcano, to the perpendicular depth of 258 feet, jumping over fissures, which exhaled flaming sulphurated hydrogen gas. After great danger, arising from the brittleness of the basaltic and sienitic lava, they reached nearly the bottom of the crater, and analysed the air in it, which was found to be surcharged, in an extraordinary manner, with carbonic acid.

From the kingdom of Michoacan, one of the most agreeable and most fertile countries in the Indies, they returned to Mexico by the high table-land of Tolucca, in which they measured the

snowy mountains of the same name, ascending to its highest summit, the peak of Fraide, which rises 2364 toises above the level of the sea. They visited also at Tolucca the famous hand-tree, the *cheiranthostæmon* of M. Cervantes, a genus which presents a phenomenon almost unique; that of there being only one individual of it, which has existed since the remotest antiquity.

On their return to the capital of Mexico, they remained there several months, to arrange their herbals, abundant in gramineous plants, and their geological collections; to calculate their barometric and trigonometrical measurements performed in the course of that year; and, in particular, to make fair drawings of the geological atlas, which M. Humboldt proposes to publish.

Their return furnished them also with an opportunity of assisting at the erection of the colossal equestrian statue of the king, which one artist, M. Tolsa, overcoming difficulties, of which a proper idea cannot be formed in Europe, modelled, cast, and erected on a very high pedestal: it is wrought in the simplest style, and would be an ornament in the finest capitals in Europe.

In January, 1804, our travellers left Mexico to explore the eastern declivity of the cordillera of New Spain: they measured geometrically the three volcanoes of Puebla, Popocatepec, and Iztaccihuatl. According to a fabulous tradition, Diego Ordaz entered the inaccessible crater of the former, suspended by ropes, in order to collect sulphur, which may be found every where on the plains.

M. Humboldt discovered that the volcano of Popocatepec, on which M. Sonnenschmidt, a zealous mineralogist, had the courage to ascend 2557 toises, is higher than the peak of Orizaba, which has hitherto been considered the highest colossus of the country of Anahuac. He measured also the great pyramid of Cholula, a mysterious work, constructed of unbaked brick, by the Tultequas, and from the summit of which there is a most beautiful view over the snowy summits and smiling plains of Tlaxcala.

After these researches they descended by Perote to Xalapa, a town situated at the height of 674 toises above the level of the sea, at a mean height at which the inhabitants enjoy the fruits of all climates, and a temperature equally mild and beneficial to the health of man. It was here that, by the kindness of Mr. Thomas Murphy, a respectable individual, who, to a large fortune, adds a taste for the sciences, our travellers found every facility imaginable for performing their operations in the neighbouring mountains.

The level of the horrid road which leads from Xalapa to Perote, through almost impenetrable forests of oaks and firs, and

which has begun to be converted into a magnificent causeway, was three times taken with the barometer. M. Humboldt, notwithstanding the quantity of snow which had fallen the evening before, ascended to the summit of the famous Cofte, which is 162 toises higher than the Peak of Teneriffe, and fixed its position by direct observations. He measured also, trigonometrically, the Peak of Orizava, which the Indians call Sitlalteptl, because the luminous exhalations of its crater resemble, at a distance, a falling star, and respecting the longitude of which, M. Ferrer published very exact observations.

After an interesting residence in these countries, where, under the shade of the *liquidambar* and *amyris* are found growing the *epidendrum vanilla* and *convolvulus jalappa*, two productions equally valuable for exportation, our travellers descended towards the coast of Vera Cruz, situated between hills of shifting sand, the reverberation of which causes a suffocating heat; but happily escaped the yellow fever, which prevailed there at that time.

They proceeded in a Spanish frigate to the Havannah, to get the collections and herbals left there in 1800, and after a stay of two months, embarked for the United States: but they were exposed to great danger in the channel of the Bahamas, from a hurricane which lasted seven days.

After a passage of thirty-two days, they arrived at Philadelphia; remained in that city, and in Washington, two months; and returned to Europe, in August, 1804, by the way of Bourdeaux, with a great number of drawings, thirty-five boxes of collections, and 6000 species of plants.

Observations on the Property Tax, worthy the Notice of any Person.

EVERY occupier of land or houses is to return a statement of the *annual value* of *all the tenements* which he occupies, distinguishing such parts as are his own, from those belonging to others, and also, *the names* of all his landlords, with the rents payable *to each*.

No deductions for repairs or for land-tax can be allowed unless mentioned and claimed in such statement.

Tenants delivering false accounts of the *value* or *rent* of their premises liable to a penalty of 20£.

Persons entitled to any annuity out of the funds, however small; all persons carrying on trade, or exercising any profession; all volunteers receiving pay, and all persons enjoying posts or places, are required under a penalty of 20£. to return the amount of their income, however small the same may be, in the

the district where they reside, and such persons whose incomes are below 150*£*. are to state on part 3, of notice paper, No. 5, the whole of his income, from whatever source the same arises, and that it does not exceed the amount therein mentioned; in order that they may be either wholly exempt, or charged according to the abated scale of duty. Deductions on account of interest, or other annual payments, are to be particularly stated, as persons receiving *interest of money* or annual payments, *without allowing* the *duty*, will be liable to a penalty of 50*£*. and a surcharge of treble duty.

Landlords receiving conventionary rents are to be charged for them although the same may be *less* than 20*s*.

All exemptions and allowances, either on account of children or of income, are to be granted by certificates given to the party claiming, and not by a reduction of the assessment, as in the former act.

No referees are allowed by the last Property Act.

Persons whose income are below 60*£*. per annum, must make a return of their property; but they will afterwards be relieved by a parish vestry, not exceeding seven, who are to be sworn, "diligently to enquire and make true presentments of the amount of income of the respective claimants," in order to save poor people the trouble and expence of attending the commissioners.

As soon as the assessments are made, notice is to be given to every occupier of the charge made upon him *in each* of the schedules separately, and also of the day of appeal.

The profits of trade, &c. are to be returned and charged in the *place where such trade* is carried on.

Tenants duty of 9*d*. attaches on all kinds of property except a *dwelling-house and the domestic offices thereto belonging, not occupied with a farm of lands*, for the purpose of farming the same, and except tythes which are subject only to 3*d*. in the pound.

Joint tenants may severally claim abatement, except farms in one demise, or not in exclusive possession, and except sleeping partners.

Persons fraudulently converting their property, or rendering it temporarily unproductive, or guilty of any falsehood or fraud, *in order to avoid the duty*, liable to a heavy penalty.

The first and third parts of the assessors notices, No. 5, must be returned to the assessor at his house, under a penalty of 20*£*. and the second part may be returned to the commissioner's office.

These notices to be delivered by the assessors will require the attentive perusal of those to whom they are delivered.

The assessors of the parishes are obliged to deliver to every inhabitant within his district, the proper notices for these pur-

poses, otherwise they will be liable to a penalty of 20£. for each omsssion.

INTERESTING TRIAL.

LANCASHIRE SUMMER ASSIZES.

SCHOLES v. TAYLOR, AND OTHERS.

THE following decision affords an additional proof of the vigour and exemplary justice of British jurisprudence in the punishment of oppression.

This was an action of trespass. It appeared that the plaintiff was a wheel-wright, and resided, with his wife and family of eight children, upon a small farm at Newchurch; that the defendant, Taylor, is an inn-keeper at Newchurch, and also constable for the forest of Rossendale: the defendants are bailiff's followers. Previous to the 25th of December last, the plaintiff Scholes having contracted a debt of 8l. with the defendant Taylor, he was sued for the same, and an execution against his goods issued on that day for 14l. 10s. including the costs of that action. The defendants being armed with this authority, on the 31st of December last, proceeded to the plaintiff's premises, and drove off his two cows; and at night broke open the door of his dwelling-house, seized all his goods, and took every article of any value away with them. They then proceeded to turn the plaintiff's wife and family out of doors, and secured the premises. On the Saturday following, they sold by public auction, the whole of the plaintiff's household goods, stock of cattle and hay, the produce of which amounted to upwards of 84l. Not satisfied with this large sum, in satisfaction for their demand of 14l. 10s. they demanded a further sum of 9l. 14s. from the plaintiff; at the same time adding, that if he did not procure the money in the space of an hour, they would sell his stock of wood and working tools. The plaintiff, being fearful of receiving further injury, borrowed the money of his neighbour, and paid it to the defendants.

In defence to this action the defendants pleaded a justification under their warrant of execution for 14l. 10s. but the judge, Mr. Baron Sutton, being satisfied that the law would not justify such proceedings, did not permit the defendant's counsel to offer the same in evidence.

The judge, in summing up the case to the jury, observed, that a more cruel and oppressive case never came before a court of justice; and it called upon them for the most exemplary damages. He said, "Here is a poor industrious man, with a large family, comfortably situated upon a small farm, obtaining his livelihood by honest industry, bereft of every comfort by these defendants,

defendants, acting under the mask and colour of the law, sweeping away the whole of his property, to the amount of 84l. exclusive of the 9l. 14s. extorted from him, to satisfy the small sum of 14l. 10s. breaking open his house at a late hour of the night, and turning the family into the open streets, in the dead of winter, where they might have perished, had not their neighbours taken them under their protection:—Gentlemen (his lordship added), such men as the defendants are not fit for the situations they hold; and I will take care that they never have it again in their power to oppress the weak. I leave the case of this poor and much injured plaintiff in your hands, not doubting you will make him an ample compensation for the injury he has sustained."

The jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiffs.—Damages 200l.

Hints toward a Character of the last Lord Lyttleton.

THE name of this personage is seldom mentioned but with pity or contempt; yet there seems to prevail only a confused and indistinct idea either of his qualifications or his failings. The only son of an amiable and beloved woman, whose early death most tenderly endeared every relic she bequeathed, the late Lord Lyttleton was exposed in childhood, to all the dangers that indulgence and adulation can present. While the father wept over his child as the image of his lost wife, the little world of relations and domestics that surrounded the boy, strove to bestow on every budding vice, the semblance of a virtue. Dandled thus into audacity and conceit, can we wonder that the first actions of his life were bold and licentious? That precocity of judgment must be truly singular, which could render them otherwise.

Joined to an ardency of temper, the son of Lord Lyttleton possessed the warm feelings of inherent genius. On reading Milton, when quite a boy, a passage so forcibly struck his fancy, that he threw down the book, and paced the room with tremulous eagerness. On understanding the cause of this emotion, his delighted father clasped him in his arms, and almost smothered him with caresses. The passage was,

> " He spake: and to confirm his words, outflew
> " Millions of flaming swords, drawn from the thighs
> " Of mighty cherubim: the sudden blaze
> " Far round illumin'd hell!"

A mind so tenacious of rapturous sentiment, was perhaps the worst soil on which flattery and indulgence could sow their destructive

structive seeds: the sensibilities of genius betrayed him into a thousand errors, from which stupidity would have been a preservative. That his youth was stained by vices of no common magnitude, is but too well known. The old harper who attended on his Oxford orgies has told strange tales of his frantic mirth, in those midnight scenes. His mind was habitually cloudy and chearless; wine presented a short-lived flow of fancy, and ebriety is seldom a solitary deviation. Those who best knew him attributed a portion of his misconduct to the effects of a marriage, accelerated by the fond hopes of his father; they likewise saw great reason to believe that the personal responsibility annexed to the peerage, to which he succeeded, and the ardour with which he entered into public business, would effectually wean him from pursuits equally unworthy of his understanding and his rank in life. An immature death, however, blighted his expectation: and it remains only to hold forward his name as a sad instance of the insufficiency of talents without the aid of discretion.

His parliamentary life, though short, was honourable. However erroneous might be some of his early political sentiments, he never failed to preserve an independence of character. Firm to the opinions he adopted, his eloquence was persuasive and energetic. On the subject of the American contest, he thus delivered ideas which a short experience would have enabled him to correct: "For my own part, I have not that high opinion of their Roman spirit as to suppose that it will influence them contentedly to submit to all the horrors of war, to resign every comfort in which they have been bred, to relinquish every hope with which they have been flattered, and retire to the howling wilderness for an habitation; and all for a dream of liberty, which, were they to possess to-morrow, would not give them a privilege superior to those which they lately enjoyed; and might, I fear, deprive them of many which they experienced, beneath the clement legislation of the British government."

His judgement is more conspicuous in the following brief mention of two very eminent characters. "The two principal orators of the present age, (and one of them perhaps a greater than has been produced in any age,) are the earls of Mansfield, and Chatham. The former is a great man; Ciceronian, but I should think inferior to Cicero. The latter is a greater man; Demosthenian, but superior to Demosthenes. The first formed himself on the model of the great Roman orator; he studied, translated, rehearsed, and acted his orations: the second disdained imitation, and was himself a model of eloquence, of which no idea can be formed but by those who have seen or heard him. His words have sometimes frozen my young blood into stagnation, and sometimes made it pace in such a hurry through my veins, that I could scarce support it. He however embellished his ideas by classical amusements, and occasionally read the sermons

mons of Barrow, which he considered as a mine of nervous expressions; but, not content to correct and instruct imagination by the works of mortal men, he borrowed his noblest images from the language of inspiration."

The mind accustomed to speculations on the probabilities of chance, will rarely avoid the painful weakness of superstition. Where the test of experience affords little or no direction, preternatural significations are fearfully resorted to; every whisper of the wind is an omen that triumphs over the strongest suggestions of reason, and involves the happiness of the anxious enthusiast. Thus, Lord Lyttleton, who indulged without restraint that propensity to gaming which every man fond either of money or pleasure possesses, was the abject slave of every trivial accident that interfered with the accomplishment of his purpose. A gloominess of temper, joined with an aspiring imagination, strengthened, to a sad importance, this enervating delusion. The sight of a rustic funeral at Hagley, in any fancifully inauspicious hour, would produce a fit of the deepest terror and alarm. He visited the castle of a nobleman in the north. The house and its furniture wore a face of venerable grandeur. Some tragic scenes had been performed in the mansion, and the apartments were shewn precisely in the same state as when they were the silent witnesses of blood and contention. Lyttleton's active fancy overpowered his natural fortitude. He forebore to retire 'till good breeding forced him to his chamber. He had not long been there, however, before he returned, with a pale and wild countenance, and confessed he could not venture to sleep in the room assigned him, because "The boards of the ancient flooring cracked so violently as he trod over them!"

The circumstances attending his death are too well known to allow repetition. His sombre fancies at length fatally disordered his mind, and he sank the victim of a perverted imagination.

His religious sentiments were gloomy and indeterminate. He has been supposed a sceptic; but the elastic visions of his fancy tempted him rather to credulity than scepticism. The mysterious and the awful captivated his imagination; and in the midst of his vices, when he thought of religion, it was not without symptoms of bigotry. Such an irrational species of faith, as may be supposed, added to the horrors of his serious moments:—"Will you believe me," says he, "when I tell you that, in a morning's ride which conducted me by some of the tremendous fires employed in the manufactories in my neighbourhood, I shuddered at the sight of their angry flames, and expressed my sensations to the young lady I accompanied, in such a manner, as to make her cheek as pale as my own."

For those dialogues of which he is known to be the author, (the personages of the first, the Saviour of the World, and So-

erates; and of the second, King David and Cæsar Borgia) no excuse can be offered. The infidel might plead the levity of his opinions, but he who "believes and trembles," yet throws a string of jests in the face of the Being on whom he rests his hopes, is faulty beyond conception. They were never directly published, it is true: but a sufficient number of copies were circulated to render their purport pretty generally known. The only resemblance of an apology that can be offered is the youth of the author. And may not the same plea be advanced, in alleviation of his other errors? surely, too severe a sentence should not be hastily passed on the man who has no opportunity of correcting the first mistakes of his life? Not to ask so trite a question as what the world would have thought of Henry V. had he died before he gained possession of the crown, suffer me to observe that George Lord Lyttleton himself, eminently amiable and useful as he proved, would have left the character of a mere noisy declaimer, and unblushing sceptic, had he died at the same age with his son; though he lived to shew every requisite talent of the statesman, and to write, from sincere conviction, a pious defence of the Christian faith.

In his person, Lord Lyttleton bore considerable resemblance to his father. He was tall and slender, with a pale and comparatively diminutive face. He was master of a most insinuating address, and too well skilled in all those winning arts which ensnare the inexperienced and unsuspecting.

T. R.

REMARKS *on* DINNERS.

DR. JOHNSON says, "There are few things that a man thinks more seriously about than his dinner." This observation appears whimsically correct, when we find, from Zimmerman, that Frederick the Great, of Prussia, a stoic amid the tumults of victory, was put in excellent humour from anticipating the joys of a macaronie pie which he had ordered for dinner! In Sully's Memoirs we find, likewise, that Henry IV. of France, the gallant and magnificent, placed great value on the substantial blessings of a well-served meal. Accounting to the favoured Sully for an unusual flow of spirits, among such circumstances as, "From Italy I learn that I shall have the satisfaction, the honour, and the glory of reconciling the Venetians with the pope;" and "Bongars writes to me from Germany, that the new king of Sweden is more and more esteemed by his new subjects; and that the landgrave of Hesse gains me every day new friends, allies, and assured servants:"—we see, not without some little surprize, unless acquainted with the above aphorism of Johnson, "I have also *had a good appetite*; I have

eaten excellent melons; and half a dozen quails have been served up at my table, the fattest and most tender that I ever saw!"

HUMANITY *of a* SLAVE MERCHANT.

IN the month of March, 1783, the following circumstances came out in the trial of a case of insurance at Guildhall. An ignorant master of a slave-ship had overshot his port, Jamaica, and was afraid of wanting water before he could beat up again to the island. He himself fell sick. In the course of his illness he ordered his mate, who was the man that gave the evidence, to throw overboard 46 slaves, hand-cuffed; and was readily obeyed. Two days after he ordered 36 more to be thrown over after them, and after two days more another parcel of 40. Ten others, who had been permitted to take the air on deck, unfettered, jumped into the sea indignantly after them. The ship, after all, brought into port 480 gallons of water! Can humanity imagine that it was meant, in any possible circumstances, to submit the fate of such numbers of reasonable creatures to the reveries of a sick monster; or that his brutal instrument should dare to boast of his obedience, and even do it with impunity, in the highest criminal court of the best informed people of Europe?

ANECDOTE *of* FOOTE.

AN eccentric barber some years ago opened a shop under the walls of the King's Bench prison. The windows being broken when he entered it, he mended them with paper, on which appeared "Shave for a penny," with the usual invitation to customers; and over his door was scrawled the following poetry:—

Here lives Jemmy Wright,
Shaves as well as any man in England,
Almost—not quite.

Foote, (who loved any thing eccentric) saw these inscriptions, and hoping to extract some wit from the author, whom he justly concluded to be an odd character, he pulled off his hat, and thrusting his head through a paper pane into the shop, called out, "Is Jemmy Wright at home?" The barber immediately forced his own head through another pane into the street, and replied, "No, Sir, he has just *popt* out."—Foote laughed heartily, and gave the man a guinea.

Answer, by Emilia Mortimer, to S. Streatham's Rebus, inserted July 22.

BEHEADING five letters I found out a RACE;
Beheading again I discover'd an ACE;
I then put the heads on, and found out a BRACE.

§‡§ We have received the like answer from J. Waldron, of Lyme Regis; Adrianus; F. Symes, of Bristol; H. Pratt, of Luppitt; T. Adey, of Poole; G. England, excise officer near Marlborough; and W. Gard, of Gittisham.

Answer, by G. England, Excise Officer near Wells, to Primrose's Enigma, inserted July 22.

DESCEND kind HOPE! seraphic virtue come,
Cheer the sad soul, enwrapp'd in sorrow's gloom:
'Tis thine to ease life's load, lighten its care,
And buoy the sinking mind above despair.

☞ We have received the like answer from Thomas Prout, of Mevagissey; T. Adey, of Poole; Adrianus; Emilia Mortimer; Corporal Ninnis, of St. Agnes; W. Bickham, jun. of Ashburton; P. Gove, of Exeter; and R. Trewavas, of Mousehole.

Answer, by P. Gove, of Exeter, to T. Jarvis's Charade, inserted August 5.

WHEN in the east the radiant orb of light,
With rising lustre captivates our sight,
Unveiling nature with his rays divine,
How beauteous then the sparkling DEW-DROPS shine!

‖†‖ We have received the like answer from W. Bickham, jun. of Ashburton; and S. C. Moore, of Horswell House.

An ANAGRAM, *by W. Bickham, Jun. of Ashburton.*

INGENIOUS bards, a metal change,
And tho' it may appear quite strange,
Yet it a beast will make appear,
That's in the forest ev'ry year.

A CHARADE, *by J. Channon, of Ottery.*

UPON my first what various scenes appear,
What noise and bustle echo in the air;
What many do when fearful thunders roll,
And vivid lightnings flash from pole to pole;
Indeed my whole, 'tis mournful to relate,
Has laid in ruin many a wealthy state.

A REBUS, *by G. Hann, Jun. of Stoke Abbot.*

A Noble warrior first transpose;
And then a dog you must disclose,
Ere you my second find;
My whole an herb will plainly shew,
Which useful is and good I know
To most of human kind.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

MODESTY.

SWEET unassuming nymph! whose gentle mien
So charms, and so attracts the enchanted eye!
In merit's sacred train thou first art seen,
One of the fairest fav'rites of the sky.

Dear nymph! how inexpressible thy charms!
How bright the expression of thy beaming eye!
'Tis thy sweet smile our bosoms nobly warms,
And turns to rapture ev'ry tender sigh.

What is yon scene that so attracts my sight,
And thus inspires my bosom with delight,
Delight unspeakably serene!
Lo! 'tis, my friend, a fav'rite in thy train,
Soft'ning behind thy veil another's pain,
And, striving to be hid, is the more plainly seen!

Sherborne. B. AYRES.

DESCRIPTION *of a* SEA CALM.

COME, my Cleora! let us taste the sweets
Of closing day, and from this wave-worn beach
Survey the scenes around. See o'er those hills,
Which to the east their verdant ramparts lift,
A satellite, the harbinger of eve,
Like thee mild beaming! Ocean there pursues
His silver-winding course Fled are the spells
Of wild romance, the words of mystic power,
That erst, O Mona! echoed thro' thy groves—
Else should I deem some wizard's gifted wand
Had charm'd the winds to sleep; his fiat bade
All nature hold a solemn pause! But hark!
What witchery of sound, what sudden tones
Captive the sense? 'Tis the wild murmuring
Of yonder circling waves. A lofty swell
Now breaks upon the ear—'tis heard no more—
Another yet succeeds—again it melts
Into a dying fall. Lo! o'er the deep
Is flung a changeful robe, rich with the hues
Of Iris, from the sun's fast waning fires
Sweetly reflected, that one boundless stream
Of soften'd glory pour! How beauteous rise,
Inverted, headlands sprent with snowy flocks,
Dark frowning woods, o'er canopying sky
And mansions fair! It seems as tho' a world,
Resembling our's were pillar'd on the waves!
But the rough oar, while flashing on the view,
Dispels the vision fancy lov'd to form,
And breaks the level of the mirror'd scene.
Such was the hour, methinks, so calm, of old
As sung the muse, when Dionea, queen
Of tremulous desire, soft beauty's self,

Her

Her ivory limbs unveil'd, from coral depths
Of glassy ocean, Nereid like up-sprung!

Lynn. W. CASE, Jun.

TO THE MIDNIGHT HOUR.

THOU placid season of sedate repose
(Of undisturb'd and gloomy stillness born),
No vivid glare thy sombre skies disclose,
Or glowing tints that gild th' empurpled morn.

Thine is the modest silvery light which beams
From stars that pave mild Cynthia's nightly way;
While from her car a paly lustre gleams,
Faint as the breeze that waves the aspin spray.

The light wing'd hours of dewy morn and eve
Now uncontested leave thy ebon throne;
And while o'er all thy darkling banners wave,
Thou sits'st secure, majestic, and alone.

The flocks repose: no village watch-dog barks,
Nor twittering sound escapes the songster's nest;
The echoes sleep, and solemn silence marks
Thy peaceful hour of universal rest.

As move thy minutes undisturb'd and slow,
Life's busy cares and restless passions sleep,
Save where the wretch bemoans his hopeless woe,
Or waking saints their holy vigils keep:

Or, haply, superstition's voice ascends,
And mystic hymns disturb thy silent reign;
Or filial love or sacred friendship bends
With fond attention o'er the bed of pain.

The bed of pain I've watch'd with ceaseless care:
Thou, midnight hour, alas! full well I know;
For thou hast found me sadly station'd there,
Unknowing change—except to deeper woe.

With prospects dreary as thy sable gloom,
My palsied mind has shrunk in chill dismay;
With trembling glances view'd the silent room
Where modest virtue half-expiring lay.

Oft did this fruitless prayer thy silence break—
"Life-breathing power thy welcome mandate give;
"Let healthful breezes fan life's vital spark,
"And strength diffusing, bid Eugenio live.

"When in the confines of the eastern sky
"Aurora's hand unbars the gates of day,
"With gloom-clad shades let pallid sickness fly,
"And health return with morn's returning ray."

That joy-fraught season hadst thou prov'd to be,
Tho' bound by frost, or dark with misty show'rs,
Or tempest-clad, thou still hadst prov'd to me
The first, the fairest of the circling hours.

Yet still one charm my chearless soul can find;
Thou canst one sympathetic charm bestow;
Thine are the glooms that meet my kindred mind;
For thee I'll twine a cypress-wreath of woe.

Bristol. MATILDA.